

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Application No

PCT/GB2004/004360

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61B17/128

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 755 726 A (PRATT ET AL) 26 May 1998 (1998-05-26) column 5, line 20 - line 63 column 9, line 45 - line 55 column 13, line 22 - line 27; figures 1,7,8	1
X	EP 1 304 079 A (FEMCARE LTD) 23 April 2003 (2003-04-23) cited in the application	1
A	paragraph '0052! - paragraph '0053!; figure 1	10
A	US 6 610 073 B1 (LEVINSON MELVIN E) 26 August 2003 (2003-08-26) column 11, line 9 - line 30; figure 13a	14



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

9 May 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

24.05.2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this International application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☒ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-13

An applicator comprising a barrel portion to hold a surgical clip and a handle portion comprising trigger means operable to effect closure of a surgical clip held within said barrel, whereby the trigger is provided with a visual indicator means indicative of the trigger position at which the clip held in the barrel is closed to a half closed position.

2. claim: 14

An applicator comprising a barrel portion having gripping means at a distal end of said barrel and a handle portion comprising trigger means operable to move said gripping means to held an object, whereby the trigger is provided with a visual indicator means indicative of a defined intermediate trigger position comprising a change in surface texture being dimensioned such that the clearance between the trigger means and a main body portion of the handle is minimal.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Application No

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5755726	A	26-05-1998	US 5607436 A	04-03-1997
			CA 2131973 A1	09-04-1995
			DE 69425417 D1	07-09-2000
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			AU 770587 B2	26-02-2004
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			CA 2391816 A1	22-02-2001
			EP 1204378 A1	15-05-2002
			WO 0112079 A1	22-02-2001
			ZA 200201226 A	13-05-2003
US 6610073	B1	26-08-2003	NONE	